

Message Text

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NEA:SSOBER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 164944

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MASS, IR
SUBJECT: SECURITY OF ASIAN GAMES SITE

REF: CARMISH-MAAG 281031Z JUL AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPARTMENT IS WORKING URGENTLY WITH DOD, JCS, FBI AND SECRET SERVICE IN EFFORT TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO IRANIAN CONCERNS. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT SURE HOW HELPFUL USG CAN BE, GIVEN TYPE AND MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM. AS INITIAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST, DOD IS SENDING EOD EXPERT FROM EUROMED ASAP TO SURVEY GAMES SITE AND DETERMINE WHETHER USG HAS CAPABILITY TO ASSIST GOI.

2. AT JULY 29 MEETING ON US RESPONSE, TENTATIVE DECISION REACHED THAT US SHOULD CONFINE ROLE IN GAMES SECURITY TO PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN AREAS IN WHICH WE HAVE CAPABILITIES IRANIANS DO NOT NOW HAVE. WE DO NOT WISH IN ANY WAY TO APPEAR TO BE ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR GAMES

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SECURITY. DURING MEETING DOUBT WAS EXPRESSED THAT WE HAVE

TECHNOLOGY TO DETECT EXPLOSIVE DEVICES IMBEDDED IN REINFORCED CONCRETE. DOUBT ALSO EXPRESSED THAT US POSSESSES CAPABILITY SUPERIOR TO IRAN'S IN PHYSICAL SEARCH PROCEDURES OR IN SECURING AREAS FROM UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY, BUT FBI AND SECRET SERVICE ARE REVIEWING PROBLEM TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY CAN MAKE ANY USEFUL INPUTS IN THESE AREAS; EMBASSY RSO

MAY HAVE SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE ON BASIS HIS EXPERIENCE. IN VIEW OF SIZE OF AREA TO BE SECURED AND SHORT LEAD TIME IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO FOCUS US ASSISTANCE ON SECURITY OF VIP SPECTATOR AREAS.

3. QUERY ALSO RAISED AT MEETING ABOUT CREDENCE TO BE ASSIGNED TO THREAT, IN VIEW OF POOR RECENT TRACK RECORD IRANIAN TERRORISTS HAVE ON POWER AND SOPHISTICATION OF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. COUNTRY TEAM ASSESSMENT WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

4. YOU MAY WISH TO SUGGEST IRANIANS CONSULT ALSO WITH UK AND CANADA, WHICH ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE IN FIELD. INGERSOLL

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